

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

MD-CW1803

August 4, 2003

A Good Week to be a Corn Plant

Mild temperatures and a few showers covered the area resulting in **5.7 days suitable for field work** for the week ending August 3, 2003. Air temperatures ranged from the low 80's to the high 60's. Most areas of Maryland recieved between 0.5 and 1.0 inches of rain last week.

Conditions were favorable this week for **corn** and **soybean** growth and development. A majority of the corn is in the tassel stage and a small amount of early planted corn is in the dough stage of development. Soybean development is behind normal by at least two weeks with only 17 percent bloomed, over 30 percent below last year and the five-year average. Some soybean fields are experiencing insect pressure from leafhoppers.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3, 2003 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1998-2002
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	5	1	7	6
Cantaloups	23	14	51	49
Cucumbers	33	30	60	60
Peaches	25	13	53	38
Snap Beans	47	34	65	56
Sweet Corn	41	32	55	54
Tomatoes	25	21	24	37
Watermelons	19	9	18	28
Crop Progress				
Corn, silked	77	50	84	84
Corn, dough	16	6	46	40
Soybeans, bloomed	17	5	51	49
Tobacco, bloomed	20	12	49	61
Hay Harvested				
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	81	73	100	99
Alfalfa Hay 3 rd Cutting	24	13	64	53
Other Hay 2 nd Cutting	70	60	88	82

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	8	15	25	35	17
Soybeans	10	21	28	34	7
Sorghum	15	7	30	41	7
Tobacco	7	24	30	36	3
Pasture	2	4	28	43	23

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	17	68	15
Topsoil (2002)	32	51	17	-
Subsoil Moisture	-	10	81	9
Subsoil (2002)	53	35	12	-

Holly Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Norman Bennett
State Statistician

Published by

The Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service

50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(410) 841-5740 Fax (410) 841-5755

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Precipitation and Departures From Normal, Through July 30, 2003

County	July 2003		Since April 1, 2003	
	Precipitation	Departure From Normal	Accumulated Precipitation	Accumulated Departure
Maryland				
Allegany	2.6	0.4	18.7	7.1
Anne Arundel	4.3	2.0	20.2	9.4
Baltimore	3.3	0.8	19.5	6.8
Calvert	4.5	2.0	21.7	9.6
Caroline	3.6	1.0	19.4	7.8
Carroll	2.4	0.0	18.0	5.5
Cecil	1.9	-0.5	17.2	5.2
Charles	3.7	1.2	22.1	10.2
Dorchester	3.3	0.8	19.1	7.9
Frederick	1.9	-0.5	19.4	6.8
Garrett	1/	1/	1/	1/
Harford	3.3	0.6	21.0	7.7
Howard	2.5	0.3	17.8	5.4
Kent	3.4	1.0	19.3	7.0
Montgomery	4.4	2.1	22.3	9.9
Prince George’s	4.3	1.8	22.5	10.3
Queen Anne’s	4.1	1.6	19.6	7.7
Somerset	3.4	0.8	15.6	4.0
St. Mary’s	3.8	1.3	20.8	8.7
Talbot	4.3	1.7	20.0	7.9
Washington	4.4	1.9	17.5	6.0
Wicomico	2.7	0.1	16.2	4.7
Worcester	1.2	-1.0	18.1	6.3
Delaware				
New Castle	4.3	-0.3	28.1	3.6
Kent	2.3	1.7	35.8	11.6
Sussex	2.7	0.1	28.3	5.0

Source: National Weather Service

^{1/} Data is unavailable